

[T. Adinarayana Chettiyar] [26th August 1925]

Restoration Bill immediately after lunch. The House is already thin and even the present 'thickness' of the House is due to the fact that much attention centres round that Bill."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" These motions for supplementary grants are very important motions."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" The hon. Minister can have the grants whether the House is 'thick' or thin."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" There seems to be no general inclination to take up the Village Officers' Bill. Being Government business, it should be proceeded with as on the agenda, unless Government wish otherwise."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" May I point out, Sir, that the year is advancing and that unless these grants are made now, there will be no chance of their being spent during the year? Therefore we cannot wait till the October session and move these demands. I should very much like to have these demands taken up next."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is always left to the Government to arrange their business as they choose, and if they do not wish to disturb the order on the paper, we shall have to go on with it."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" I submit that the calamity which the hon. the Chief Minister evidently apprehends will not happen because the demands will come up after an hour or so." (Voices of 'No, no'.)

* Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" I think it is necessary to go on with supplementary grants because there are large sums of money asked for."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Yes, I think as the Treasury Bench perhaps dreads the consequences of the eloquence of the hon. Members over the Village Officers' Bill!" (Laughter.)

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

(The hon. the Deputy President in the chair.)

Sriman BISWANATH DAS MAHASAYO :—" Sir, in accordance with your suggestion I want to propose the name of Sriman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo to be a Member of the Select Committee on the Andhra University Bill."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" Let the hon. the Minister for Education come "

V

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1925-26.

Grant IV.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I beg to move that—

'the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 12,000 under "Forest (Major head 8-c. Forests—Establishments—i. Panchayat Officer)—Reserved".'

"From the note that has been supplied, hon. Members will see that the action of augmenting the forest panchayat staff was raised during the

26th August 1925] [Mr. Muhammad Usman Sabib]

budget discussion of 1923. The Government agreed with the Chief Conservator of Forests that it was necessary to increase the panchayat staff. The area under panchayat management at present is 984 square miles which is more than the present staff can manage. The additional area to be brought under panchayats is approximately 1,600 square miles which consists partly of areas in districts in which the staff is already working and partly of areas in the new districts to which it is proposed to extend the scheme. If they are handed over to panchayat management, it is anticipated that five Forest divisions and 11 ranges can be abolished with an annual saving of Rs. 1,00,000. It is not possible to state the exact dates from which they can be abolished as this is dependent on the time necessary for organizing new panchayats; but a saving of Rs. 2,500 is anticipated during the remaining six months of 1925-26. A sum of Rs. 12,000 will be required during the current year, deducting the anticipated saving of Rs. 2,500. From the note that has been placed in the hands of hon. Members they will see that the demand is to meet the cost of the minimum staff required. I hope that the House will sanction the demand."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Sir, during the budget discussion I brought to the notice of the hon. the Home Member the necessity for establishing forest panchayats for the forest areas in the Ganjam district, and also the necessity of establishing ryots' forests as was announced by the Government. The hon. Member even went further and said that he would examine the question and look into the necessity of meeting the wishes of the people of Ganjam. In answer to a question I put the other day as to whether any panchayat has been started till now, the Government said that they would not extend the system of ryots' forests in the Ganjam district, specially in the Gumsur forests. I therefore request the hon. Member to go into the matter himself, see that forest panchayats are started in certain places at least as an experimental measure and that the establishment of ryots' forests be immediately given effect to in the district of Ganjam. With these words, I move that the grant be reduced by Rs. 10."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RAIH Mahasayo :—" I second it."

* Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" While speaking on this motion, I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Member who moved this grant to the way in which the development of forest panchayats has been practically neglected so far as the Nellore district is concerned. I may point out that it was the pioneer district which started the system of panchayats. Two panchayats were started long before the Forest Committee was appointed and before it began its deliberations. But it is an irony of fate that in this very district there has been no development in forest panchayats when people are anxious to have panchayats. It is probably due to the want of special staff and I think this is the best opportunity for improving the forest panchayats. I wish to bring to the notice of this House that on various occasions proposals have been sent up by villagers. The hon. Home Member will see that the district that has been the pioneer has not been able to show any improvement and the people themselves have expressed their willingness to have forest panchayats and to have all possible facilities for the improvement of panchayats. I drew the attention of the Government to this question on various occasions and the hon. Sir Arthur Knapp said that the matter would be taken up. But nothing further took place. I was

[Mr. A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu] [26th August 1925]

present on various occasions when the villagers waited in deputation on the Collector and submitted printed memorials. I do not know what became of them. The people expressed their desire to have forest panchayats. I do not regret what is past, in the hope of what is going to be done in the future. To-day may I request the hon. the Home Member that a special staff be appointed and that my district may be given better treatment?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" With regard to the debate that has taken place on this question, I should like to say that as regards Ganjam I understand that there are no suitable forests to be brought under the forest panchayats. If my hon. Friend will only write to me indicating the forests that he would like to bring under the panchayat system, I shall be prepared to consider the question. With regard to Nellore, I may say that steps will be taken to bring the forests under the panchayat system very soon."

* Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" Special staff has to be appointed."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Certainly."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—" I withdraw my motion for reduction."

The motion was put to the House and carried and the grant was made.

Grant VIII (8).

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, I beg to move

'that the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 40,000 under "General Administration" for the construction at Madras of quarters for the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.'

"In doing so, I should like to call attention to the note that has been placed before the House from which hon. Members will see that we have to provide a separate house for the Military Secretary. It has been pointed out in the note that that difficulty has been met at the present moment as the present Military Secretary happens to be the son-in-law of His Excellency the Governor. Under the circumstances explained in the note, it is absolutely necessary to have a separate building for the Military Secretary and the cost of the building will be about Rs. 60,000. This year a sum of Rs. 40,000 is required and so I move that that sum be granted."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I second the motion."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I regret I have to oppose this motion firstly, from an economic point of view. I want to know how the Military Secretaries of previous Governors were housed for so many years and how this need has arisen at the present moment. Secondly, we have a Government House at Guindy which practically remains unused unless we are to believe that the outhouses and the main building are used by some people connected with the race course. This House would like to know why Guindy Government House should not be used by the Military Secretary in these days of rapid locomotion with motor-cars that move very rapidly. It would be easy for the Military Secretary with his family to stay at Guindy and attend to his duties during day time and if necessary in the evenings."

26th August 1925]

[Mr J. A. Saldanha]

"I think it is a waste of public money to spend such a large amount on building a new house within the premises of the Government House.

2-15 p.m. "There is also one other reason for which I may take this occasion to oppose this grant. We may take this occasion to express the resentment of the House in the way in which its wishes are being flouted by the Government. I do not refer, Sir, to our being denied the right to express an opinion on the policy of the Government. But I refer to the opinion of this House given yesterday against the colonization of the Andamans by the Mappillas. To-day a report is placed in our hands in reply to the question put by me as to the condition of the Andamans. I rubbed my eyes to see . . ."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"What has the condition of the Andamans to do with the motion before the House?"

* MR. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I have given the reason, Sir, firstly, it is from an economic point of view that I oppose this motion, secondly, it is for political reasons, I want to express our resentment at the treatment given to the opinion of this House at yesterday's debate on the colonization of the Andamans. I find that to-day we have been favoured with a report as to the condition of the Andaman islands which ought to have been placed yesterday."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I sent the report to the Council office 3 or 4 days ago."

* MR. J. A. SALDANHA:—"It may be a mistake on the part of the office. Now here is the report, and we have to rub our eyes to see if it is true or not. These Andaman islands have been condemned in strong terms by the Jail Committee. We could have had occasion to criticize the Government action yesterday, but the report was placed before us only to-day. So, I take this occasion to give expression to our resentment at the way in which our wishes have been flouted in this case and in other cases. Therefore, I urge upon the House to oppose this motion entirely."

* MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR:—"I feel bound to oppose this supplementary grant of nearly Rs. 70,000 for the construction of an additional building for the Military Secretary to His Excellency. Of late the demands of the Government House on the finances have increased, and it is perhaps necessary, apart from other reasons, on mere financial grounds, to oppose any extravagance in the Government House expenses. From the speech made by the hon. the Home Member, I am led to believe that he has not made himself personally acquainted with the necessity of a building for the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor. I wish, Sir, that a new Member as he is, he goes himself into the matter and finds out the real need for a building of that sort. There have been many Military Secretaries previously, some of them married, some of them bachelors. I do not think the necessity for an additional building for a married Military Secretary was felt in previous years. While there was no necessity for it in previous years, I wonder why an urgent demand should be brought forward now. Though I am not precluded from referring to other grounds such, for instance, as the resentment of this House against the Government in not allowing criticisms on the policy of the Government,

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar] [26th August 1925]

etc., I shall confine myself to this, with a view to canvass the support of all the hon. Members of this House against the motion, namely, on financial grounds, and call attention to the fact that more urgent demands from the people's side are ignored, if not definitely thrown out."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya :—"I wanted to inquire where the former Military Secretaries were putting up. If there was no need for the former Military Secretaries to His Excellency the Governor to have a separate house within the Government House itself, I do not see any reason why a new departure should be made with regard to the present incumbent. When we know that the present incumbent happens to be a relation of His Excellency the Governor, it is natural that we expect him to remain with His Excellency. Therefore, there is no necessity made out for a separate building for the Military Secretary. I therefore oppose the motion for this grant."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"My hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar, said that I have not gone into the question and found out whether the need is real or not. I can assure this hon. House that I have gone into this question very thoroughly, and I think it is very essential that we should have this building. The question has been raised as to where the former Military Secretaries lived. What happened was that most of the Private Secretaries and Military Secretaries in previous years were unmarried men. At present we require three quarters, because all the three officers are married men—the House Surgeon, the Private Secretary and the Military Secretary. We have to give them separate quarters."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya :—"Has there been any change of policy since, that they should get married men only?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The choice is left entirely to His Excellency. We have got at present the 'Chepauk House' and 'the Lodge'. The Private Secretary and the Military Secretary are occupying these houses. We are getting a new Surgeon to His Excellency in December or so. He is a married man, and we want to provide a quarter where a married man could live. Under these circumstances, there is a real need for a new building."

"With regard to the question of Mr. Saldanha, I may say that the Government is quite different from the Governor. The Governor is a representative of His Majesty. I think it is the duty of this House to see that all comforts are granted to the representative of His Majesty the King-Emperor. If they want to show resentment against the Government, there are so many other opportunities for doing it."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"May I ask if this is not one of the opportunities?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I do not think so. It has nothing to do with that. I hope the hon. Members of this House will pass this motion."

The motion was put and declared carried.

26th August 1925]

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar called for a poll and the House divided as follows :—

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 21. Mr. V. Madhava Raja. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 22. " T. Mallesappa. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 23. " P. N. Marthandam Pillai. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 24. " C. Muttayya Mudaliyar. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai. | 25. " B. Obalesappa. |
| 6. " Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. | 26. " G. Premayya. |
| 7. " the Raja of Panagal. | 27. " B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 8. Mr. E. W. Legh. | 28. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 9. " G. T. Boag. | 29. Rao Bahadur P. Raman. |
| 10. " G. T. H. Bracken. | 30. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 11. " Abdulla Ghatala Sahib. | 31. Mr. M. Ratnaswami. |
| 12. " S. Arpudaswami Udayar. | 32. " K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 13. Rao Sahib T. C. Tangavelu Pillai. | 33. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. |
| 14. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. | 34. " R. Veerian. |
| 15. Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 35. Diwan Bahadur W. Vijayaraghava Mudaliyar. |
| 16. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. | 36. Mr. K. Venkatachala Padayachi. |
| 17. Mr. N. Devendrudu. | 37. " T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 18. Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan. | 38. Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-Jah Sahib. |
| 19. Mr. L. C. Guruswami. | 39. Mr. T. M. Moidu Sahib Bahadur. |
| 20. " R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 40. " T. N. Muhammad Sahib Bahadur. |
| | 41. Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja. |

Noes.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju. | 8. Mr. C. Maruthavanam Pillai. |
| 2. " A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu. | 9. Sriman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo. |
| 3. Mr. J. A. Saldanha. | 10. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar. |
| 4. " K. Uppi Sahib. | 11. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 5. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 12. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar. |
| 6. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 13. " C. V. Venkataraman Ayyangar. |
| 7. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. | 14. " B. Venkataratnam. |

41 hon. Members voted *for* the motion and 14 *against*.

The motion was carried

Grant VIII (ii).

3 p.m. *The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“I beg to move

‘that Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 3,370 under “General Administration” in connexion with the pensionary contribution to the Sudan Government on account of the pay of the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.’

“Hon. Members might have seen from the note supplied that this is a charge which this Government has to meet. It has borrowed the services of a Military officer from the Sudan Government and therefore the claim of the Sudan Government for this pensionary contribution is just and reasonable. I therefore move that this small sum may be granted.”

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

[26th August 1925]

Grant X.

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"Mr. Deputy President, I move
*'that Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 2,700 under
 "General Administration—Reserved" on account of the pay of the temporary additional establishment proposed to be appointed in the current year in the Revenue Secretariat.'*

"I understand that owing to some misapprehension between the Revenue Secretariat and the Council Office the note explaining in detail the grounds for this proposal has unfortunately not passed into the hands of the hon. Members. That note would have given them all the necessary information. I may say that this item has already been placed before the Finance Committee. There has been no increase in the establishment of the Revenue Department since the year 1919 at which time the separation from it of what is now known as the Development Department took place. In that year the number of currents which had to be dealt with in the Revenue Department amounted to 15,373. Last year, after some fluctuations it increased to as many as 21,342. In part that increase may be only temporary, but there appears to have been a steady increase in the normal volume of work with which the department has to deal. Apart from that, for the last year or so, the Revenue Department has been very heavily burdened with additional and special work. For example, a very large amount of legislation has been under consideration in that department. I might refer to legislative work in connexion with Survey, Irrigation, Land Revenue Settlement, Railway construction, Village Officers—a Bill relating to which is on our agenda for the present meeting—Court of Wards, etc. There is, further, in the current year, a large increase of work owing to the fact that the Madras Presidency has taken in hand the long-standing question of railway development. The first item in connexion with railway development is inevitably acquisition of land for the purpose and that throws a very heavy burden on the Revenue Department. It is not easy to say at present whether the increased work which is laid on this department is going to be permanent or not. But I am afraid that the volume of current work is clearly an indication that it would be impossible to carry on the work of the Revenue Department unless some permanent addition is made to the establishment. For the present, we propose to confine our demand to a sum which would be sufficient to meet the cost of one superintendent and three clerks temporarily until the end of the current financial year. By the time the budget proposals come before the Council, it would be possible to gauge what the permanent situation is likely to be. I move that this grant be given."

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

Grant XVII (i).

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Mr. Deputy President, I beg to move

*'that the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 22,760 under
 "Education—Transferred".'*

"The item consists of six sub-heads. "The first is the Government Victoria College at Palghat which has been raised to a first-grade college and the expenditure in the course of the year will be Rs. 6,300. Agreeably to

26th August 1925]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

the promise made to the Council at the time of the budget, the college was raised to the first grade and additional expenditure incurred. Now the sanction of the Council is required for this expenditure.

"In regard to the second item, in the Ceded Districts College we have a temporary tutor in the place of an assistant in the subordinate educational service. As tutor he has to do the same kind of work as an assistant lecturer in other colleges in the Madras Educational Service. It is now proposed to remove the difference between these colleges and to raise the position of the tutor to that of an assistant lecturer and therefore this additional sum is required.

"The third sub-head under this item is for the institution of a project course in the Engineering College, Guindy. It has been recommended to us that it is absolutely necessary that graduates of the Engineering College should undergo a course of what is called the special training in project course. This training includes survey of water-works, projects and also railway construction. The curriculum of the Engineering College will therefore be modified in order to include these subjects, viz., survey of projects relating to water-supply, construction of railways, and construction of reservoirs. This item is for the purpose of meeting the additional expenditure to be incurred by the students whenever they go out on excursion and prepare schemes which will be scrutinized by the professor. It would also cover the batta and the travelling expenses of the students and also expenses for meeting the cost of additional lascars who may have to be employed. For these purposes, we have this year asked for a sum of Rs. 3,200.

"The fourth item is for the purpose of opening a training class in the Government Higher Elementary School at Chicacole. There is paucity of secondary trained teachers in Ganjam and Vizagapatam districts. So, in order to enable the department to have more trained teachers it is intended to strengthen further the Oriya and Telugu training class in Chicacole by the addition of a graduate teacher who will be competent to take charge of the additional class.

"The fifth sub-head relates to the Government Training School at Chicacole. The number of trained teachers in the Ganjam district is comparatively few. Therefore, it is proposed to provide for additional facilities for the training of teachers. Higher elementary training will be provided for teachers who are already in the field working in the lower standards.

"The sixth sub-head relates to the opening of a secondary training class attached to the aided secondary school at Srirangam. Hon. Members will remember, that some time back I suggested that Government would pursue the policy of encouraging secondary schools opening training sections in addition to what they are doing so that teachers and students who pass out of that school may be trained also in that school in the training section. In that way the necessity for the maintenance of a separate training school in any particular locality would be minimised. In addition to minimising the cost it would enable the headmasters to know their students and to train them efficiently in the training section attached to the school. This policy is also economically sound. So, the policy having been already declared, we want to begin with this school in this place, viz., Srirangam. Hereafter we propose to subsidize aided institutions so that they may open training sections

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[26th August 1925]

or classes attached to their schools. In the long run these schools will become more popular seeing that this policy must naturally result in the students of those schools undergoing training in their own schools and get employed there or in the neighbourhood.

"Therefore under these sub-heads the expenditure is needed and I request the House to grant the same."

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—"Will the hon. the Minister be so good as to specify the items under the first sub-head?"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I said that a sum of Rs. 6,300 would be required."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—"The hon. the Minister for Education has informed us that a training school with a training section is to be started at Chicacole for the training of Oriya and Telugu students. I think that he is going to have only one teacher to look after the training of those students in Telugu and Oriya. I should like to know how he proposes to have the Oriya students trained if he proposes to appoint a Telugu gentleman, or if he is to appoint an Oriya gentleman how he is going to have Telugu students trained."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya :—"Sir, it is not only a question of appointing a teacher whether Oriya or Telugu to the place. Training is given to a teacher by asking him to handle some class. There in Chicacole we have got all Telugu classes. I do not know how the Oriya teachers are going to handle Telugu classes and get trained. It is impossible for the Oriya teachers who go for training to secure the necessary training through the medium of Telugu. It is an impossibility. Of course the hon. Minister will say that this was done in the case of some students in previous years at Cocanada. But that is no reason why that anomalous system should be continued. Here we have got a school where there are no Oriya boys receiving education and you are going to have an Oriya teacher trained in that school. Is it not an impossibility and are you not going to waste all the money on that new scheme? Would it not be far better for the hon. Minister to open a secondary training section at Berhampur where there is every facility for training both Oriya and Telugu students? Berhampur is also more central. Therefore, this money which is going to be spent in Chicacole, I suggest, may be diverted to Berhampur where Telugu students and Oriya students will have the opportunity for getting trained. It may be pointed out that in the training school at Berhampur there are no regular Telugu classes; but the difficulty could be obviated when you know that there is the Kallikotta college which can be indented upon."

"The teachers to be trained here will go to the Kallikote Training School for the necessary training."

"In the interests of both the Telugu and Oriya students I suggest that the Oriya students should get their training in the Government Training School, Berhampur, and the Telugu students in the Training School at Chicacole. I hope that my suggestion will be carried out. I do not mean to oppose the motion, for I see too well the necessity for these additional classes. I am only objecting to the location of these classes. I hope therefore that the hon. Minister will satisfy these conditions before he sanctions the expenditure for the school at Chicacole."

26th August 1925]

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—"Sir, with regard to the Victoria College, Palghat, may I urge upon the hon. the Minister for Education that a much larger sum of money should be allotted to this institution. The college has recently applied for affiliation in a number of subjects for the B.A. Degree examination. The Madras University before granting affiliation will certainly insist upon the college being equipped completely as regards its buildings, etc. I understand that at present the building of the Victoria College, Palghat, is divided into two parts one separated from the other by a very noisy street. I am not now speaking for the University, but I shall say this much, that the affiliating authorities will insist on the college being situated in a thoroughly academic atmosphere before affiliation is granted. And certainly, one part of the College being separated from the other by a noisy and crowded street, does not contribute towards that academic atmosphere. The University will insist upon the change in the character of the building being accomplished before affiliation is granted. Therefore, as Government are very keen upon the affiliation of the College, I hope they will see their way to increasing to a much larger extent their expenditure on the Victoria College, Palghat. Let them give at least as much as may be necessary to rearrange the buildings in such a way that this noisy street does not intervene between the two halves of the college. If this is not done, Sir, I am afraid that the Victoria College, Palghat, stands no reasonable certainty of being affiliated to the University."

*Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Sir, I associate myself though not with all the observations made by my hon. Friend Mr. Ratnaswami, at least with the request that a decent grant be made to the college to enable it to make the necessary building arrangements. The college building is on one side of the road and on the other side there are some buildings belonging to the college such as the hostel and others. As a matter of fact the college was raised to the first grade on the 1st July. It is now affiliated in certain groups. Government themselves have desired that the college should be affiliated in the other groups also and it is also understood that when the college teaches the other subjects also next year additional grants will be made."

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—"Sir, may I point out that the University has not yet granted affiliation in some of the subjects?"

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I am aware of that. I am also aware that the University sent out a commission to examine the building and the surroundings and they came to the conclusion that affiliation should be granted in the subjects which are now proposed to be introduced. Government, too, are certainly in earnest about getting this affiliation and I feel confident that Government will not be niggardly in spending the necessary amount, especially in view of the fact that they are spending a large sum of money to start a University for a few districts of the Presidency—I mean the Andhra University and I do not grudge the expenditure—and I hope that Government will not grudge the very small amount that is necessary to make the buildings commodious and fit to meet the requirements of the students in the college. I associate myself with my hon. Friend Professor Ratnaswami in his request that more money might be allotted to the Victoria College, Palghat, in the near future for the necessary expansion of the buildings."

[26th August 1925]

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Sir, with reference to the observations made by the hon. Member Mr. Biswanath Das, I have to say that these training schools are of the secondary grade and not of the elementary grade. Therefore, the difficulty of language is not great in the secondary grade training schools, at least not so great as in the case of the elementary grade training schools. Moreover, these training schools take twenty Telugu students for one year and twenty Oriya students for the next year. I believe there are Oriya trained teachers in the school and there are facilities also for training teachers in that language."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know what are the facilities that the hon. Minister refers to in connexion with the training school at Chicacole? Is the vernacular Oriya, the medium of instruction in the secondary grade training school?"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The school has been training Oriya students hitherto and therefore it is clear that there are facilities for training Oriya students in the school."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I inform the hon. Minister that Chicacole never trained a single Oriya student in the secondary grade?"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" In Cocanada where there was a training school the Oriya students were trained in a Telugu school. Therefore, here they will not be in a worse position than there. If there are any difficulties in the matter of training like those referred to by the hon. Member, the matter will be looked into and the difficulties removed."

"As for the suggestion of my hon. Friend Mr. Ratnaswami in connexion with the Victoria College, Palghat, and its recognition by the University, I am sure necessary steps will be taken in order to provide the necessary buildings so that the University may be in a position to recognize it. Government have already made a provision in the budget of the current year and when the college develops next year more fully it will be possible to make further provisions for the building."

The motion was put to the House and carried. The grant was made.

Grant XVII (ii).

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Sir, I beg to move
*'that Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 5,98,604 under
 "Education—Transferred" for the expansion of elementary educa-
 tion.'*

"The grant consists of four heads :

Expansion of elementary education.	Amount required (1925-26). RS.
(i) Opening of 191 aided elementary schools in the areas of taluk boards not levying the education tax ...	23,302
(ii) Revision of the rates of teaching grants ...	4,30,000
(iii) Opening of 452 board elementary schools in the areas of taluk boards levying the education tax ...	1,10,288
(iv) Opening of 287 aided elementary schools in the areas of taluk boards levying the education tax ...	35,014
Total ...	<u>5,98,604</u>

26th August 1925]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

"As regards item (i), there are now certain facilities for the expansion of elementary education through private agencies. But reports have reached us that there are 191 centres in the areas of taluk boards where private aided agencies are ready to start elementary schools. It is to help these areas of taluk boards which do not levy the education tax that this grant is needed.

"With regard to the revision of the teaching grants, it is proposed to encourage the three classes of teachers, viz., secondary untrained teachers, higher elementary trained and higher elementary untrained teachers. These classes of teachers are to be encouraged in the expansion of elementary education. In the first two cases it is proposed to raise the grant from Rs. 96 to Rs. 120; and in the third case it is proposed to raise the grant from Rs. 72 to Rs. 84. The lower elementary trained teachers are already there and it is proposed to increase the grant of the lower elementary untrained teachers from Rs. 48 to Rs. 60. The increased cost of paying grants to the existing schools on this scale is estimated at Rs. 4.30 lakhs. This grant takes effect only from the beginning of October. But if we calculate for the whole of the year it would come to about 6 lakhs. This grant is needed only for a portion of the year.

"As regards item (iii), in 1924, subsidies were granted to taluk boards which levy the education tax for the opening of 839 schools in the areas under their jurisdiction. In the current official year, subsidies were paid to such taluk boards for the opening of 1,017 additional elementary schools. According to the intensive educational survey instituted by Government, there are still in the areas of taluk boards levying the education tax 1,099 centres with a population of 500 and over to be provided with schools. It is proposed to pay subsidies to the taluk boards in question to enable them to open schools in 452 centres. The cost of the opening of the schools with effect from 1st October 1925 is Rs. 1,10,288. This is the third head of expenditure.

"I have already said that Government have proposed to encourage aided agencies for starting elementary schools in school-less areas, and even after the opening of 452 board elementary schools to which I have already referred there will still be left in the areas of these taluk boards which levy the education tax 647 centres with a population of 500 and over yet to be provided with schools. With a view to accelerate progress, it is proposed to encourage private agencies to open aided elementary schools in these areas. The inspecting officers report that private agencies are forthcoming to open aided elementary schools in 378 centres. In view, however, of the limited funds available, it is proposed to make provision in the current year for the opening of only 287 aided elementary schools in the areas of the taluk boards levying the education tax. The schools will be opened from 1st October 1925.

"Thus in the cess-levying and non-cess-levying area we propose to encourage aided agencies for the expansion of elementary education. In order to encourage the aided agencies to come forward we have revised the teaching grants so that they may be in a better position to open the schools.

"In the budget of the next year hon. Members will see that all provision is made to open schools in all villages with a population of 500 and over. There are still about 1,300 and odd village centres in both the cess-levying area and the non-cess-levying area which are in need of schools.

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[26th August 1925]

It is our object in the course of the next few years to see that all villages, whether in the cess-levying area or in the non-cess-levying area, have a school each."

3-30 p.m.

* Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB :—" Sir, I beg to move
' that the allotment of Rs. 5,98,604 be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" The object of this motion is to discuss the policy of Government with regard to Mappilla education. It has been stated that the real cause of the recurrence of Mappilla rebellion is the utter ignorance of the Mappillas. It has also been said that the Mappillas are indifferent to education. I agree with the first complaint that the Mappillas are ignorant but I do not agree with those who say that the Mappillas are indifferent to education. Government must try their utmost to give education to the Mappillas. They have spent a lot of money for Mappilla education. There are separate schools; there are separate inspecting officers; and there is a separate training school for the Mappillas. I want to ask why there should be separate schools for the Mappillas. The Mappillas have no caste pollution. They have no caste system. The real kind of education which they require is, not separate schools and inspecting agencies but religious education, education concerning their religion. That has not been given by the Government. What I want to urge on the attention of the Government is that we should get the maximum advantage with the minimum of expenditure. That ought to be the policy of Government. The educational authorities have been giving them only secular education. They have not advanced further. The Mappillas require a sort of religious education. So far, the Government have tried to force down their throat a system of education which the Mappillas consider to be of only secondary importance. That is the cause of the failure of the Government to educate the Mappillas. What I would suggest to the Government is that they must follow a system which Sir, Mr. President, your predecessor, while he was Dewan of Travancore introduced in that State and which the Cochin State is going to follow. At present in the training school the educational authorities have arranged for one period a day for giving religious instructions to the boys. Besides, Government may say that we have not got trained teachers so far as religious instruction is concerned. We have Mulla teachers, i.e., teachers trained in giving religious instruction. We have got to establish a board for prescribing religious text-books, I mean Arabic books, and these teachers ought to be trained in teaching those books. Such a system of education has made a tremendous advance among the Mappillas in the Travancore State and it is really praiseworthy. Let me tell the hon. the Minister for Education that that system of education has also made a tremendous advance in my own place. In 1919 there was a board school in my place. In that school the attendance was very poor for several years. The average attendance of pupils was only 20 and the educational authorities and the local board had an idea of abolishing the school altogether. But in the year 1919 some of the local people approached the educational authorities to introduce religious classes in the same school and the former did so. In spite of this there was no rise in the attendance, because after the religious classes were over, the pupils ran to their homes. Their guardians did not care to send them back. In the latter part of 1919, the educational authorities were approached to introduce religious subjects in the time table as a tentative measure, and when they did so the attendance rose from 20 to 75. After a year girls also began to attend the school

26th August 1925]

[Mr. K. Uppi Sahib]

and the present strength is 155, out of which 50 or 55 pupils are girls. Therefore the introduction of Arabic teachers in Muhammadan schools that is schools intended for Muhammadans will be the only means of expanding education among the Mappillas. In a school consisting of 50 or 55 pupils if the Government appoint one Mulla teacher instead of appointing two or three ordinary teachers who are trained in giving secular instructions, they will reap the maximum fruit with the minimum of expenditure.

"There is another point which I wish to urge upon the attention of the Government. I would suggest to the hon. the Minister for Education that the present system introduced in the Malappuram training school, namely, giving religious instruction in the school for a period or two a day in a week will not suffice. It is of no use because the teacher will be able to devote only one hour in a week, which means he will have at his disposal about 52 hours for a year. I do not think anybody can acquire religious knowledge sufficient to teach others within such a short period. It is not so very easy. The alternative I would suggest is that there are learned men in Malabar whose services can be utilized for teaching religious subjects without any extra expenditure to the Government and without infringing the educational rules at the same time. If Government want that Muslim instruction should be given in Mappilla schools, they must allow a certain period each day during the school session to teach Arabic. This will help both the Government and the pupils a great deal in political matters also. Now the Mappillas consider secular education only as a secondary thing. Every Muslim does so. They therefore send their boys and girls to Mulla schools at first where they are given a sort of religious education which makes them fanatical and lead them to rebellion and such other outrages. Therefore I would suggest to the Government that they should introduce in public schools the system of education that I have chalked out so that the Mappilla boys and girls may be trained to become useful to their country and to the Government.

"The hon. the Minister for Education may tell us that he introduced compulsory education in certain parts of Malabar. That I say may not be a success because the Mappillas are a sort of indifferent people and they do not want to be taught secular subjects without religious knowledge. Besides, most of these people in the interior of Malabar are busy people and they are a working class of people. Even young children earn their livelihood and if they do not earn their daily bread they have to suffer. In these circumstances, if the Government instead of spending about Rs. 11,000 on compulsory education, were to spend the same amount in imparting education on the lines I have suggested, I am sure they can expect a tremendous achievement within a year. With these few words I move my motion."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU:—"Sir, I very strongly support the point raised by my hon. Friend Mr. Uppi Sahib. I simply want to point out that his arguments apply not only to Mappilla pupils but also to other pupils that are being taught in other schools. It is not merely the number of schools that are being established that will count, but it is the sort of education that is imparted in those schools that will count. It may be tiring the hon. Members at the fag end of a long session if I were to go into some minor and elementary matters in connexion with this subject. But after

[Mr. P. Anjaneyulu]

[26th August 1925]

all it is those elementary and minor matters that count much, because a huge sum of Rs. 5,98,604 is spent upon elementary education with which what I am going to say is closely connected. I recently requested the hon. the Minister for Education to consider the sort of education which is to be given in these elementary schools. It falls to my lot in my own humble sphere to live and watch the instructions that are being given in the elementary schools in my area. It is most distressing to note that the little children who go to these schools, when they are taught Telugu are made to lose the beautiful Telugu intonation of the sounds and are made to cram and follow—I do not mean any disparagement to any missionary gentlemen who may or may not be present here—the intonations of European or American Missionaries whose pronunciation will not be after all right. The education that is given in schools is not the right sort of education in Telugu which is connected with the real ethical structure of our whole life. Besides, the sounds which they are taught to pronounce are not the same sounds which they acquire in their homes, from their mothers and grandmothers. The lessons that are taught to them about birds, and any story or fiction which they are asked to read are not suited to the genius of the race, but certain strange things to which these little young ones in elementary schools are not accustomed. I hope my hon. Friend the Minister for Education will take these things very seriously into consideration. I am very earnest in this matter because I was very much distressed to hear their pronunciation in a different manner.

“Then about the sort of education that is imparted in these schools. We have had a text-book committee appointed and some of us do not know whether it exists now. They prescribe some books containing stories, not like those which are familiar to our children, but which are foreign. The little folk cannot be expected to know these stories unless they come to advanced courses of study.

“These are the things which I would earnestly request the hon. the Minister to look into, and also to bear in mind that it is not the number of schools that counts but it is the method and the sort of education that is imparted in them that counts for much. With these few words I support the motion.”

* Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—“Sir, may I know if we can discuss the several aspects of elementary education given in schools or we should confine our attention only to the education of the Mappillas?”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“I do not suppose that Mr. Uppi Sahib wanted to make any reduction in the demand. But he simply wanted to make some remarks on the quality of education given in Mappilla schools. As Mr. Anjaneyulu said something on the quality of education given in elementary schools, I think the hon. Member from Nellore is also at liberty to make his own observations.”

* Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—“I shall refer to some of the aspects of elementary education for which provision has been made in this demand. So far as steps taken by the hon. the Minister for Education for expanding elementary education are concerned he may say that he has satisfied this House.

“I first wish to refer to the benefit which taluk boards that are not levying the educational cess derive. I state at the outset that

26th August 1925] [Mr. A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu]

I belong to a district which is not levying the educational cess. That is why I am confining my remarks to that aspect of the question. I may remind the hon. the Minister of the debate in the Council when he made a similar motion relating to this grant. It was then pointed out that while all possible facilities ought to be given in the case of those local boards which have been able to levy the education tax, the case of those taluk boards which are not able to levy it ought not to be neglected. And I believe the hon. Minister said at that time that that aspect would also be considered, not that he committed himself to any particular view but he said that he would, in considering the amount of the grant, take into account this aspect of the matter as well as the capacity of the local boards to levy this education tax. It is open to the Government to consider after examining the various budgets of the local boards whether it is possible for a local board which is deficient in its resources and which has increased its other taxes to the maximum extent, to levy this education tax. If you are satisfied from the condition and resources of the local board that it cannot levy the education cess, is it fair or reasonable that it should not be allowed a reasonable portion of the money allotted for elementary education? That is an aspect of the question which I brought to the notice of the hon. the Minister on a former occasion, and I repeat it again now, because we find the provision made for this class of boards is quite different from that made in the case of the other class. This will be quite apparent from the fact that an amount of Rs. 23,302 has been allotted for 191 aided schools in the former class of boards, whereas for 287 aided schools in the other class of boards (those that levy the education tax), an amount of Rs. 35,014 has been provided. Again, for the opening of 452 board elementary schools in the second class of boards, an amount of Rs. 1,10,288 has been provided. Therefore, in the first place I would request the hon. Minister to consider even now the desirability of having a better type of schools even in those local boards of the former class, wherever he is satisfied that such boards are not in a position to levy the education tax. If there is a local board which has got the convenience and the capacity to levy the education tax but neglects or refuses to do so, I can understand the hon. Minister treating it altogether differently from other boards. Now, considering the provision which remains so far, I should like to know the principles on which this question is going to be solved. I find from the note of the Minister that the inspecting officers report that private agencies are forthcoming to open aided elementary schools in the areas of taluk boards. He has just told us that the number of villages to be covered was about 1,300 and odd. The provision of 191 schools for so many villages is, I submit, quite inadequate and insufficient to get the advancement of elementary education desired. As to the principles adopted, I should like to know whether in all those cases the principles were approved by the district educational councils and sanctioned by them before they came up to the Government, because all that the note says is that the inspecting officers report that private agencies are forthcoming, etc. Upon what basis they made their recommendations I cannot see. So long as the district educational councils have been organized, and so long as the Minister himself has been in a position to give them increased powers and to make them responsible for elementary education, I think it would be far more satisfactory that those proposals only should come up before the Government which are thoroughly examined by the district educational councils. Even now it

[Mr. A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu] [26th August 1925]

is not too late. It is quite desirable that the schemes so far prepared may be sent for modification or suggestion, and the Government may consider the desirability of changing them. It is better to ask the councils to make suggestions to the Government for the purpose of financing elementary schools.

"I think that that aspect also deserves consideration. I hope the hon. Minister will make efforts to increase the grant, and that he will make a more satisfactory division of the allotted amount. I find that the provision made for elementary grade teachers is too small and much less than the pay of peons and other menials; and a man who really qualifies himself and takes up this profession, ought not to be paid so low. I think it is desirable to examine the question further and see that the rate is increased.

"So far as the opening of board elementary schools is concerned, I have no further remarks to offer; that is the least extent to which one ought to have gone. I do not understand on what principles the distinction is made between 482 board elementary schools and 281 aided elementary schools in the matter of selection, whether the opinions of the taluk boards were obtained, and whether it is according to the expressed wishes of those boards that the 482 schools were provided, or whether it is merely upon the recommendations of the inspecting officer that this classification was made. If the boards concerned sent up proposals in the matter of this classification, I have no quarrel with that position at all. If otherwise so far as the boards are concerned they are in a position to levy the cess, I do not think there is any justification whatever for the distinction being made. I do not see why this differentiation is made between 281 aided schools and 482 board schools.

"These are the few remarks I wish to offer. I do not wish to say anything about the quality of education imparted in these schools, because I always believe that the local boards have ample discretion in the matter of the quality of education imparted in their schools. I refuse to believe that the Government have the power to interfere in these matters, and if the Director of Public Instruction or other officers interfere with the quality of education, I think the management of the schools are entitled to resist. Control should be confined only to exceptional cases of objectionable or proscribed literature. Barring that, the management of the schools are at perfect liberty to determine the quality of education to be imparted in their schools. It is for that reason that I do not think it is necessary to ask the Government to help us in the matter of teaching."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Sir, I wish to place only one or two points before the hon. Minister for Education. On different occasions I have said enough regarding the difficulties of the depressed classes in getting admission into elementary schools. Sir, in a memorandum issued by the Government I find that out of 6,700 elementary schools, only in 600 schools the members of the depressed classes are being admitted. Now I want to know this: what about the remaining schools? My fear is that to these new schools which are going to be started the members of the depressed classes will have no free access. Therefore I should like to suggest, in order to obviate these disabilities, that these schools should be started as far as possible in the localities of the depressed classes or very near to such localities. Then again, coming to the present day education imparted in these schools, let me say frankly that the instruction given in these schools is hopeless. (Laughter). Sir, I may illustrate

[26th August 1925]

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ That is a matter left to the discretion of local bodies. Because if a man is elected president to a local board and if the same man is also elected chairman of a municipal council, the Government cannot interfere.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Am I to understand that the Government have never at any time appointed a man who was already chairman of a municipal council as president of the district board ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ That question does not arise.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ May I know whether the headquarters for the board and the municipality are in the same place in such cases or in different places ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ It may be in the same place. It is not unusual that the headquarters of a district board and the headquarters of a municipal council are in one and the same place.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ May I know a case where the same place happened to be the headquarters of both the bodies ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ My hon. Friend can easily get the information by a reference to the Annual Civil List.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I know whether complaints have been received from the citizens concerned in connexion with having one gentleman functioning in both capacities ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Sir, I have only to say that these complaints had better to be made to the electorates.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether the chairman of the Coimbatore Municipality was also nominated as district board president ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Yes. He was elected later on as chairman.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Was not the nomination made when he was chairman of the municipality ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ But he was also later on elected as chairman.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Was not the chairman of the Bellary Municipality similarly appointed president of the district board ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Yes.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I know whether it was the case with the president of the Coimbatore District Board ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The president was nominated to the district board, and he was later on elected as chairman of the municipality.”

The Coimbatore water-supply scheme.

* 464 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received several memorials from the residents of Coimbatore objecting to the Coimbatore water-supply scheme as at present decided upon ;

[Mr. C. V. S. Narasimha Raju]

[26th August 1925]

that do not levy the cess is 43. If we take into consideration the amount proposed to be spent in the area where the elementary education cess is levied for both the board elementary schools and the aided schools, the amount comes to something like Rs. 1.45 lakhs in round numbers; whereas if we take the area where education cess is not levied, a sum of only Rs. 23,000 is proposed to be utilized. That means that there is to be a very great difference between these two areas as to the amount which the Government propose to utilize on them for elementary education. You will see that after all it is the masses that are to be benefited by the provincial funds. But the Government want to make a difference between the area where education cess is levied and the area where it is not levied. There may be a difference or a fight between the ideals of those local authorities and those of the Government. But are the people to suffer on account of such a difference of opinion between the local authorities and the Government? Is it not the duty of the Government to see that even aided institutions are pushed through in those areas to a very great extent, though they may be justified in refusing to hand over any additional funds to the taluk board because the ideas of the Government are not adopted by the taluk board? Even whether they should so interfere with the views of the taluk board is quite a different matter. But is it not the duty of the State to provide education to the masses even in those areas? Are they to be neglected? If you spend Rs. 1.45 lakhs in the case of 82 taluk boards and propose to spend only Rs. 23,000 in the case of the other 43 taluk boards, how can you justify it from the standpoint of the general taxpayer or from the standpoint of the masses that are concerned? Are these people to be made to suffer simply because the taluk board does not agree to levy an education cess? Is it a justifiable ground for spending a less amount in those areas?

"Again, Sir, I want to point out that a very serious difference of opinion exists between certain authorities and the Government in the matter of aiding aided institutions. If we just examine the note supplied to us, we see in paragraph 4 that even in the case of taluk boards which agree to levy education cess there are about 378 centres where aided institutions are to be started. I believe, Sir, that institutions are already working in some of these centres. Then, it is generally the case that unless the institution is in existence for nearly a year it cannot earn the grant or be recommended by the inspecting authorities to earn the grant. Under the circumstances, what do the Government do? Instead of giving aid for all the 378 schools, they only propose to aid 287, leaving 91 schools out of consideration. Of course, as far as those taluk boards are concerned, they have consented to start a large number of schools. My submission is this: why should they not decrease the number of board schools and aid the 91 aided schools and utilize the surplus money for starting board schools? They ought to have begun this; they ought to have dealt with all the aided schools that do require grant for the current year and, if there is a surplus, they ought to have proceeded to start board schools under the agency of the taluk boards. But I believe they have reversed the process in which they ought to proceed and have created discontent among one of the most important agencies of elementary education, namely, the aided agency. I wish to know whether there are more aided schools to be aided in the areas where no education cess is levied. This statement shows that Government are prepared to aid 191 institutions in these areas. I wish to know whether that is

26th August 1925]

[Mr. C. V. S. Narasimha Raju]

all the number which the inspecting authorities have recommended to be started. Is there a different number that has been recommended by the inspecting authorities out of which the Government or the Director has chosen only 191 institutions? Of course, that is a matter which requires to be answered by facts and figures. If really there are more institutions in those unassessed areas, I think it is the duty of the Government to go to the help of the people thereby aiding aided institutions and also instruct the inspecting authorities to take every possible step necessary to start aided institutions in those areas where the taluk boards do not levy education cess."

Mr. N. DEVENDRUDU :—“ మెంటరీ విద్యయందు నిర్మించుటకు తేబడిన సస్టి మెంటరీ గ్రాంట్లు (2) నెంబరులో (3) పేర్కొనుటలో విధించిన 452 స్కూళ్లలో ఆంధ్ర దేశములో ఆది-యాంధ్రులకు యెన్ని స్కూళ్లు పెట్టుటకు యేర్పాటు చేసినారు, లేక చేయబోతారా (4) పేర్కొను 287 యాంధ్ర స్కూళ్లను ఆది-యాంధ్రులకు యెన్ని నిర్మించుటకు యేర్పాటు చేసినారు, స్కూళ్ల గ్రాంట్లు విశయమయి మీరు విధించిన సొమ్ము లెక్కచూడగా నె|| 1 కి 10 రూపాయలు చొ|| అసగా సాలుకు 120 రూపాయలుగా యున్నది. అది చాలదు. ఇచ్చట యున్న పెద్ద ఆశీస్సు అంబూ B.A., B.L. వ్యాసు చేసినవారు. అందరు ఆక్షరవ్యాసం అచ్చటనుంచి చేసి రావలసినవారుగాన నెలిమెంటరీ విద్యకు గౌరవము యిచ్చి హెచ్చు గ్రాంట్లు హెచ్చు శీతలంబువారిని ఆది-యాంధ్రులకు విద్య వృద్ధికొరకు శ్రీ విద్యాశాసక మంత్రిగారు ఆలోచిస్తారని ఆ ప్రకారం చేస్తారని నమ్ముచున్నాను.”

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I was considerably surprised at hearing certain of the remarks that fell from the hon. the Leader of the Opposition in respect to the question of the aid given by the Government for the expansion of elementary education. He has laid down propositions and has made statements which I feel bound to say are not calculated to expedite the expansion of elementary education. He has been more solicitous of those bodies which will not do anything to expand elementary education.”

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—“ I was solicitous of the areas and not of the bodies.”

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ He has been more solicitous of the areas which were under the jurisdiction of bodies which will not for the moment think of the expansion of elementary education, which will follow a policy of masterly inactivity, which will keep themselves in power because all taxation is not popular, and he has been far less solicitous and has done far less justice to those bodies which in the face of tremendous opposition have done their best to promote the expansion of elementary education. I have already stated the principle that Government should help first and foremost those who try to help themselves. It is said to be a principle which even the Almighty is guided by, and when Government in most respects tries to play the Almighty in this country it ought certainly not to lose sight of that principle. Taking this question of elementary education, you have passed an Act which gives power to local bodies to levy a definite amount of cess for the expansion of elementary education, and the Government are bound under the Act to give at least a rupee for every rupee raised by them. There are taluk boards which in the face of tremendous opposition, which in the face of the possibilities of losing elected seats by some of its members

26th August 1925]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

and I think that the number according to the parliamentary practice, should be limited to 15. We have considered the matter carefully and have placed our view before the House. I think this number would do as good work as 30 or 40. We come from long distances for the sake of our people. The people in the country wonder what we are all doing in this Council. After all, our work does not correspond to their wishes. Most of our resolutions supported by a large majority of the Council, have not been considered by the Cabinet.

"I can assure you that there is a great discontent among the people as to the work we do or are expected to do in the Council. Considering these facts, is it worth while that we should have committees of 40 and 50 for every Bill? My own humble opinion is, 15 should be the maximum for almost every Bill, including the wonderful Religious Endowments Bill and the Irrigation Bill, and, as for the other Bills that have recently come up, like the Borstal Bill, I would limit the number to 10. Therefore in the interests of efficiency and economy and the duty we owe to the people, I would urge that this amendment should be passed. According to parliamentary practice 15 is the normal number. In Parliament, there are standing committees for railways, for marine, etc., for which experts are necessary. So far as these things are concerned, there are what are called permanent standing committees. In ordinary matters, select committees are appointed. When we bear in mind that in a Parliament consisting of over 650 members the parliamentary practice fixes the maximum ordinarily at 15, I think this House ought to adopt that practice in the interests of efficiency as well as in the interests of the people."

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI:—I beg to give my hearty support to the amendment so ably moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Saldanha. It is preposterous that a small assembly like ours should in any one of its committees contain as many as 30 or 40 members. As the hon. the Law Member has pointed out the select committee is a very businesslike body, and I cannot understand how 30 or 40 members can be brought together in a businesslike body. The practice of the House of Commons has been quoted, and I think we shall be following very healthy traditions if we limit very rigorously the number on our select committees.

"There is one other reason on which I should like to urge the limitation of the number of members on select committees. There is a temptation that always presents itself to Members of Government Benches to increase the number of members of select committees, especially towards the fag-end of the session. That temptation ought to be taken away from before the minds of hon. Members in Government Benches, and if for very special reasons the number has to be increased, the remedy should be made to lie in the hands of the House. The House ought to discuss the question fairly and squarely whether the limit is to be exceeded, and if there are overwhelming reasons I am sure the House will come to the rescue and appoint a more numerous select committee. Therefore, in the interest of business, in the interests of purity of discussion in this House, I would recommend this amendment to the unanimous acceptance of the House."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU:—"I also am inclined to think that there must be a limit to the number of members of select committees; but, what creates difficulty is the way in which we have

26th August 1925] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

"But I think that the Government ought not to be expected to pursue such an unfair policy. I am willing to agree that there are taluk boards which, owing to their extreme poverty and the extreme poverty of the people, are unable to bear even the existing taxation put upon them, and have to be treated in a different manner. There are a few taluk boards in this presidency which cannot levy education tax in the same way as the other taluk boards. I am ready and willing to recognize that we must make an exception in their cases. But you cannot say that the forty-three taluk boards which do not levy a single pie of taxation, all of them deserve that sort of treatment."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—" May I know how many taluk boards out of these forty-three boards belong to the class he now mentioned."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" According to my estimate, not more than ten taluk boards come under that category. I am fairly certain that thirty of these taluk boards do not deserve any special treatment for the attitude they have taken. I am fairly certain that there are taluk boards which have rich inhabitants and have not levied any education tax as other taluk boards have done and which have not yet come forward with their proposals. I take serious objection to the Government going out of their way to help these boards which have not taxed themselves fully and completely. Some principle ought to be laid down in these matters and placed before the hon. the Minister himself. At a conference which was held two years back at Ootacamund, this aspect of the case, namely, that it was not fair that such taluk boards ought to be placed on the same level as other taluk boards which have done their best in the matter, was discussed.

"Now Sir, as regards aided institutions, a great deal is being said about the attitude the Government are taking with respect to aided education. I may allow such sentiments as are indulged in in favour of aided institutions to pass. Let us clearly understand the position. Aided education is certainly good. Private education has done more for us than Government education can do for the next twenty years. In elementary education, in secondary education, in collegiate education more than anything else, aided agency has done a tremendous lot to promote the educational facilities of this Presidency. But at the same time we have to recognize that so far as the expansion of elementary education is concerned, there is clear difference between aided education and board or Government education. I shall tell you the reason for that difference. The time is come; it is bound to come much sooner than many of us expect, when a fairly comprehensive system of free and compulsory elementary education will be an accomplished fact. Anyone who has seen the working of the system of free and compulsory education in the several municipalities in which it has been introduced, will realize in a minute the tremendous obstacles that arise from the fact that a large proportion of that education is in aided hands. I am willing, as I said, to appreciate the efforts made by aided institutions. But I am also bound to place this aspect that the greater the percentage of aided elementary education in an area, the more difficult it will be for you to introduce free and compulsory elementary education. Therefore while you are bound to give all facilities for aided education which exists to-day, while you are bound to increase the grants that are to be paid to aided institutions, while you are bound to appreciate and encourage those institutions and authorities

[Mr. C. V. S. Narasimha Raju]

[26th August 1925]

that do not levy the cess is 43. If we take into consideration the amount proposed to be spent in the area where the elementary education cess is levied for both the board elementary schools and the aided schools, the amount comes to something like Rs. 1.45 lakhs in round numbers; whereas if we take the area where education cess is not levied, a sum of only Rs. 23,000 is proposed to be utilized. That means that there is to be a very great difference between these two areas as to the amount which the Government propose to utilize on them for elementary education. You will see that after all it is the masses that are to be benefited by the provincial funds. But the Government want to make a difference between the area where education cess is levied and the area where it is not levied. There may be a difference or a fight between the ideals of those local authorities and those of the Government. But are the people to suffer on account of such a difference of opinion between the local authorities and the Government? Is it not the duty of the Government to see that even aided institutions are pushed through in those areas to a very great extent, though they may be justified in refusing to hand over any additional funds to the taluk board because the ideas of the Government are not adopted by the taluk board? Even whether they should so interfere with the views of the taluk board is quite a different matter. But is it not the duty of the State to provide education to the masses even in those areas? Are they to be neglected? If you spend Rs. 1.45 lakhs in the case of 82 taluk boards and propose to spend only Rs. 23,000 in the case of the other 43 taluk boards, how can you justify it from the standpoint of the general taxpayer or from the standpoint of the masses that are concerned? Are these people to be made to suffer simply because the taluk board does not agree to levy an education cess? Is it a justifiable ground for spending a less amount in those areas?

"Again, Sir, I want to point out that a very serious difference of opinion exists between certain authorities and the Government in the matter of aiding aided institutions. If we just examine the note supplied to us, we see in paragraph 4 that even in the case of taluk boards which agree to levy education cess there are about 378 centres where aided institutions are to be started. I believe, Sir, that institutions are already working in some of these centres. Then, it is generally the case that unless the institution is in existence for nearly a year it cannot earn the grant or be recommended by the inspecting authorities to earn the grant. Under the circumstances, what do the Government do? Instead of giving aid for all the 378 schools, they only propose to aid 287, leaving 91 schools out of consideration. Of course, as far as those taluk boards are concerned, they have consented to start a large number of schools. My submission is this: why should they not decrease the number of board schools and aid the 91 aided schools and utilize the surplus money for starting board schools? They ought to have begun this; they ought to have dealt with all the aided schools that do require grant for the current year and, if there is a surplus, they ought to have proceeded to start board schools under the agency of the taluk boards. But I believe they have reversed the process in which they ought to proceed and have created discontent among one of the most important agencies of elementary education, namely, the aided agency. I wish to know whether there are more aided schools to be aided in the areas where no education cess is levied. This statement shows that Government are prepared to aid 191 institutions in these areas. I wish to know whether that is

26th August 1925] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

cannot possibly tax themselves and extend the hand of beneficence to these areas; thirdly and lastly in some cases, I would be prepared to say that the Government ought to refuse help to such recalcitrant taluk boards and other bodies as do not see their way to tax themselves."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"As a representative of the Indian Christians of five districts, I may point out that we, Christians, have in the past spent large sums of money and have sacrificed not only money but also men and women at the altar of education. We are particularly anxious that we should have our own elementary schools with religious education. Our wish is that we should have—in every village where there are Christians—our own schools manned and equipped by our own teachers, whether for boys or girls. At the same time, we have our own difficulties and drawbacks and therefore we have to depend to a great extent on the aid of Government for maintaining our schools. It will take years, and I am sure at least half a century, to have free and compulsory primary education in the mufassal outside municipal areas. Until then we have to depend to a great extent upon private enterprise for maintaining schools and therefore I hope the Government will not stint in its policy of grants to private schools. As pointed out in the *Madras Mail* the other day, there is a good deal of difference between the principle laid down or the great hopes held out by the hon. the Education Minister to give liberal grants and the actual practice. I do not say he is responsible. In practice it is found that the educational authorities are not so generous as they ought to be towards private schools. As pointed out by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition, there are many private schools which ought to receive more generous aid in their efforts to maintain schools. I know that our priests, our laity, our nuns and our sisters have to start schools at great sacrifice of teachers and money and they expect much more liberal support from the educational authorities.

"Now, I shall come to board schools and to places where we cannot have our own schools. In such cases we hope that every facility will be given for religious education. The point which has been raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Uppi Sahib, is as regards the facilities to be given for religious education in board schools. I am aware that in some cases such facilities are not easily forthcoming. Like the Muhammadans, we Christians attach great importance to religious education, and I hope that every facility will be given to teachers who are willing to give religious education.

"I would go further and join with Mr. Uppi Sahib in urging that some sort of pecuniary aid also may be given to the teachers who at much sacrifice are prepared to give religious education. I am sure that religious education will be of great aid in making people loyal and disciplined, and that this pecuniary aid from Government will not be money thrown away. In the absence of my hon. Friend from Kanara, Mr. Abdulla Sahib, I may point out that in our district of South Kanara, with a population 1,30,000 Mappilas—I echo the sentiments and the aspiration of my hon. Friend Mr. Uppi Sahib—pecuniary facilities should be given for the spread of religious instruction among both Muhammadans and Christians.

"The third point is, in a large number of schools, the pupils are drawn from agriculturists and from different trades, and I hope that in elementary schools, after they pass the 3rd class provision will be made for giving

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[26th August 1925]

them some sort of vocational education or manual training of an elementary kind. So that our people, who are to a great extent agricultural ryots and may practise some profession or trade, will not be divorced from their profession, and that manual training is sure to help them a great deal in their trade or calling."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—"I move that the question be now put."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"On a point of order, Sir, I rose up when my hon. Friend, Mr. Ethirajulu Nayudu, wanted to move the motion for closure."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Minister should reply. I propose to put the closure motion after the hon. Minister replies."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I do not propose to review the whole question generally, but to one or two points that have been raised I should like to make a short reply. I quite sympathise with the demand for higher teaching grants. That is a matter which is entirely financial. We in the Education Department have prepared a scale and, after a good deal of discussion with the Finance Department, we came to a sort of compromise, and that is adopted for the time being. As we go on working on the scale for some time and as our finances improve, it will be quite possible that the elementary teachers of the secondary as well as higher schools may be able to receive greater consideration."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"May I know whether the lowest grade teachers will also be considered?"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"With regard to the trained and untrained lower elementary teachers, I have absolutely no sympathy for them; because it is the policy of the Government to discourage the lower elementary teachers as much as possible. The lower elementary teachers consist of persons who have read up to only fourth standard and these fourth standard people are sent up to the training schools where they receive one year of general education and afterwards they are said to be prepared in the method of teaching. It is a costly system and a useless system, and therefore we have substituted for the lower elementary trained teachers those who have passed the third form. Hence if we do not provide teaching grants for the lower elementary teachers, it is because they are inefficient teachers and they are useless for the purpose of carrying on the expansion of elementary education."

"Then, Sir, another point was raised. If certain local bodies do not discharge the responsibility cast upon them, are we to mulct the people of the area; are the people of the area to suffer because a local body does not discharge its responsibility? I am afraid the answer consists in the question itself. If the people of the area are not able to find what their wants are and provide for these as required under the statute, is it not the duty of the Government to come to their help?"

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"They are all illiterates."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"It is not a question of illiteracy. Local bodies consist of representatives of these poor people. Those representatives who voice forth the sentiments, the feelings and the needs of a particular locality ought to be able to realize that the particular locality

26th August 1925]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

requires expansion of education, and therefore they must carry out the statutory obligation cast on them. When they fail to discharge their responsibility, they cannot be treated with any amount of consideration, but in order to save the people, as the hon. Member for the City of Madras has pointed out, to combat illiteracy and ignorance, Government have taken upon itself the responsibility of providing education, not through the agency of the local body, not through the advice and support of the representatives who do not care to discharge their responsibility to the people, but through an aided agency, aided agency such as a local panchayat where a village consists of a well-constituted panchayat which is able to manage such things, or a panchayat which is constituted for a group of villages that will maintain and manage the aided institutions, or private enterprise of patriotic persons who have got the love of the village, love of their own surroundings in their mind and will be able to start schools in the local area for the purpose of securing the expansion of elementary education. Those persons that come forward and open new schools in that area, will be encouraged with higher revised grants. Again there is the mission agency that is working. If they open new schools and take pains to promote expansion of education, we take advantage of that for promoting the expansion in the areas where the local body has failed to discharge its responsibility. We have not neglected these areas. The power of control and management of elementary education is denied to these bodies, because they have failed to discharge the responsibility entrusted to them.

"Then, Sir, in regard to the opening up of new schools, after the Elementary Education Act has been passed, district educational councils have been constituted in every district. They consist of representatives from local bodies and other aided institutions. It is their primary responsibility to submit schemes to the Government for the extension of education. Yet we have not received any such schemes. Therefore an intensive educational survey was carried on, and the elementary education survey is now complete for the whole Presidency. According to this survey, we have now information for each taluk as to where a school is provided or is required; viz., what is the local amount of support that is available in that particular centre, or what is the local aid that will come forth in connexion with school building or management? These are taken into consideration and the survey shows us at one glance what are the villages that are yet to be provided for and how these villages have to be provided for, whether it is through the local bodies or aided agency. Therefore the results of the intensive survey give us at a glance what is actually required for the purpose of securing the expansion. After having had these results, we are going on with the expansion, and in the course of the next two years, we hope to find a school in each village.

"With regard to the remarks that have fallen from Mr. Uppi Sahib, I can only say that his views are quite characteristic, and I have sympathy with his aspiration. But there is another side to the question. We appointed a committee in 1922, consisting of representative Mappillas and also educational authorities; they have gone into the whole question of the expansion of Mappilla education and the curriculum or course of studies that are to be adopted for the purpose of educating the Mappilla youths. They have given us a report. In that report details are furnished. In accordance with their recommendations, we have already taken steps, and therefore I

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[26th August 1925]

may say we are not unmindful of the progress of elementary education in Mappilla areas, not unmindful of the quality of education that is given to the Mappilla youths in that area. Sir, that report has already been published. From the beginning of July, the scheme that was recommended by the committee has come into force.

"My Friend Mr. Saldanha said that Christian schools demand or require some protection, and that Christian religion ought to be taught in these schools. He is a product of Christian education. Christian missions have been managing a number of elementary schools, and I believe one of their objects is that they should give a Christian atmosphere to the institution. When there is such a Christian atmosphere in the schools to which Christian boys are sent, I fail to see what further the State can do in order to aid Christian religion."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I referred to the Board schools."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I move that the question be now put."

The motion for closure was put and carried.

* Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB :—"I withdraw my amendment."

The amendment having been withdrawn, the main motion was put and carried. The grant was made.



* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 47,900 under "Education—Transferred." The amount will be met from the surplus due to the remission of the Provincial contribution to the Government of India.'

"Sir, this item consists of the following :—

'Grants to the University—Rs. 33,000, for payment of travelling allowances to the Members and University authorities, and for the purchase of books for the University Library; then the appointment of a district educational officer in the bifurcated Kistna district; the employment of a personal assistant to the Principal, Law College; Grant-in-aid to village panchayats for the maintenance of libraries—Rs. 8,000.'

"It has been recognized that the village libraries constitute a useful adjunct for the dissemination of mass education. It is proposed to distribute the grant of Rs. 8,000 among select village panchayats to enable them to organize libraries in their respective areas. Two of the conditions under which the grant will be made are that the panchayat should provide the furniture and staff required for the library, and contribute from its own funds or subscription, a sum not less than the amount of Government-grant. The library shall be open to all classes of people. This is in addition to what is already provided in the budget for aiding libraries which are recognized or assisted by local bodies."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"Sir, I wish to know whether the libraries are to be free libraries or whether admission to it will be restricted to some?"

4-45 p.m.

26th August 1925]

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" They will be open to all classes of the population."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—" Is it going to be of the class of libraries which charge some subscription or is it going to be a free library? "

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" It is not intended to restrict or exclude any particular class."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" The question is whether the membership excludes any particular community or whether membership is free? "

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" They have to contribute some money also. "

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

Grant XIX.

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Mr. Deputy President, I move
' that the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 6,25,000
under " Public Health and Vital Statistics—Transferred " for grants
to local boards for improvement of water-supply in rural areas.'

" I am sure, Sir, that hon. Members will admit that any Government which claims to be a civilized Government must aim at doing the greatest good to the largest number of people. In India we have a large majority of people living in villages. In our own province, rural population forms more than 85 per cent of the total population. That being so, it is only right that we members of this Government should pay reasonable attention to the wants of the village population. Leave alone this theoretical consideration, leave alone also the ethical consideration, viz., that because the Government realises the largest portion of their revenues from rural areas therefore it is incumbent on them to see that at least a decent portion of it is spent in improving the condition of village life. Let us confine ourselves to the practical issues of the work-a-day world. Thanks to Mr. Montagu and his Act on Indian Reforms of the masses, living in rural areas have been awakened to a sense of political consciousness. More than that, they have been armed with political power. They have been given the right to vote and send their representatives to the highest councils. Is it possible for any Ministry to resist the demands of the representatives of the people, and carry on their administration on the Transferred side? I say it is not. Mr. Deputy President, we are responsible to the representatives of the people. My hon. Colleagues and myself realized our responsibilities to the representatives of the people and ever since we assumed charge of our offices we have been anxious to see that the rural demands are satisfied to the best of our ability. But unfortunately during the last four years on account of the heavy contribution which the Central Government insisted upon this Government paying them we have been greatly handicapped for want of funds. We did our level best by cutting short expenditure by carrying on rigorously the policy of retrenchment; and taking up such schemes of improvement as are urgently due my hon. Colleague has been able to extend primary education in the rural areas. My other hon. Colleague, the Minister for Development, has done something in the matter of development of industries, etc., and I

[The Raja of Panagal]

[26th August 1925]

too have been able to introduce an extended system of public health in this Presidency and give sanitary arrangements for the rural areas. I have also introduced the system of medical relief in rural areas. Now that the Government of India have been able to remit a portion of our contribution we are in a position to do more and we have been able to get from the other side of the Government (Reserved Half) a large portion, almost the whole of the amount released deducting the deficit in the budget. Thus we have been able to introduce some of these schemes. One of these schemes is the improvement of water-supply in the rural areas. It is for this scheme that this amount has been asked for.

"Mr. Deputy President, there are some token motions of which notice is given. My friend Mr. Veerian has asked us whether we are going to do anything for the depressed classes. I say, care will be taken to see that as far as possible their needs are attended to."

* Mr. C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"May I know how much is going to be allotted for the purpose?"

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I cannot say how much. It will be left to the discretion of the local bodies."

"Another friend of mine has asked us the policy which underlies the distribution of this amount. I can only say that the Government propose to give grants to these local bodies on their undertaking to pay equal amounts. Moreover the payments are to be made under the post payment system. If the object of the hon. Members who have given notice of token motions is to have this information, I give it."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"Sir, I only want to suggest that it would be very difficult for the local bodies to find half the amount to enable them to apply for the other half from the Government. I know as a matter of fact that the taluk boards have either no funds or that they will not allot funds. In some areas there is absolutely no drinking water, even no water for any purpose. The restriction which the Government propose to impose, namely, that unless taluk boards allot money they would not give money, I think, would cause a great deal of hardship. I would therefore appeal to the hon. Minister to make an exception in the case of taluk boards which are unable to find the money and where rural watersupply is very urgently called for. Unless he makes some such relaxation the whole scheme will not be a success."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, if the local body concerned does all that it can and yet finds itself unable to contribute 50 per cent of the net cost, then such a case will be considered."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Sir, I have given notice of a token motion to reduce the allotment by Rs. 100 with a view to discuss the necessity for setting apart a definite percentage of this sum for the improvement of water-supply in rural areas to the members of the depressed classes and to suggest suitable methods to complete the improvement within a definite period. It is a well-known fact that water scarcity is very keenly felt in almost all the districts. In this connexion I thank the hon. Members who took part in the debates on this subject during the budget discussion on behalf of the poor class of people. Sir, there are three important elements in this world and I consider that water is one of those three. Is it possible for any human being or for any other living being to exist in this world

26th August 1925]

[Mr R. Veerian]

without a sufficient quantity of water? Well, Sir, this scheme would not have been necessitated had the local boards provided sufficient amount for drinking water-supply in their budget every year. If you will kindly peruse the budgets prepared by the local boards you will find large sums set apart for maintaining roads, removing prickly-pears and other things ignoring this important item of water-supply. Now, Sir, what I wish to suggest is that out of this general allotment a definite percentage or a definite sum should be set apart for the amelioration of the condition of the depressed classes so that there may be some guarantee that sufficient number of wells will be provided. Now we are going to entrust the whole thing to the local boards. In several of the local boards there are no representatives belonging to the depressed classes and in several of them though there are representatives they are not able enough to voice forth the feelings of the community. In such cases, Sir, how is it possible for them to tackle this problem and claim for the depressed classes funds sufficient for the purpose of sinking more wells or to repair existing wells in order to give sufficient quantity of water to the poorer classes of people to exist in this world? Well, Sir, it will be argued that there is the Labour Department and it is therefore left to me to approach that department. Only last year a lakh of rupees was handed over to the Labour Department for water-supply and for several sanitary improvements. That one lakh would not be sufficient for even one taluk. That being the case how is it possible for the Labour Department to distribute sufficient funds to all the districts out of that one lakh?

"Sir, I wish to point out another thing. It seems that the Government are going to spread this work over a period of three years. They are going to complete this scheme of sinking wells, etc., in three years' time. To that all I can say is that it is a dangerous policy. I would suggest that this money should be utilized within a year and the scheme completed within that time. Because, this is a matter relating to a question of life and death and three years is indeed a very very long period. It may be contended that acquisition proceedings will have to be taken, that estimates will have to be prepared and all that. But I may say that in rural areas all this could be done without much difficulty and loss of time. Only in municipalities there is difficulty in acquiring lands. Therefore, there is no necessity for extending the period for three years. Then, Sir, it is better to appoint a special overseer to prepare schemes and to carry out the works as early as possible.

"Lastly, what I want to suggest is that water-lifters should be got and placed in wells instead of sinking separate wells. With these few words I beg to resume my seat."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"The House will now adjourn and re-assemble at 11 o'clock to-morrow."

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.